

Washington State Senate

2016 Interim Committee Work Plan and Meeting Schedule

*Compiled by Senate Committee Services on behalf of Committee Chairs,
as directed by the Secretary of the Senate.*



May 2016



DATE: May 16, 2016

TO: Washington State Senators and Other Interested Persons

FROM: Susan D. Howson, Director
Senate Committee Services (786-7401)

SUBJECT: 2016 Interim Committee Work Plan and Meeting Schedule

I am pleased to provide this [2016 Interim Work Plan and Meeting Schedule](#), as approved by the Facilities & Operations Committee, for your reference in the months preceding the 2017 Legislative Session.

The interim work plan is a document that identifies potential projects and activities that committees may undertake during the interim. In addition to the items included in this work plan, Senate Committee Services' staff conducts additional research projects as requested by individual Senators. In this light, we hope you will find this document useful in planning your calendars and monitoring the committee's work during the interim.

The electronic version of this document can be found on our website at: <http://www.leg.wa.gov/Senate/Committees/Pages/default.aspx>. The website will be updated throughout the interim as the dates and locations of committee and task force meetings and activities are finalized.

If you have other requests or questions, or need assistance on any issue, please don't hesitate to contact Senate Committee Services staff.

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Senate Accountability & Reform Committee

Work Plan Summary – 2016 Interim

PROJECT: Local Government Financial Reporting and Audit Services

COMPLETION DATE: November 2016

STAFF: Karen Barrett
786-7413

REFERENCES: [ESHB 2148 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: The committee will examine audit, management and financial reporting statutes for technical improvement and study prevalence, qualifications, standards and experience when private firms perform audit services for local government. Committee staff will draft legislation, as requested.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2016 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7435

September Time TBA	Full Committee Work Session	Seattle, WA	Accountability for State and Local Homeless Plans.
November 14-15 Legislative Assembly	Full Committee Work Session	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.

Senate Agriculture, Water & Rural Economic Development Committee

Work Plan Summary – 2016 Interim

PROJECT: Rural Economic Development Tour

COMPLETION DATE: November 2016

STAFF: Diane Smith
786-7410

REFERENCES: NA

DESCRIPTION: The committee will tour various localities in eastern Washington that either exemplify achievements of successful economic development or demonstrate the needs for and challenges to economic development in rural areas.

The committee extends an invitation to other senators with interest in this topic to participate in all or part of the tour. As requested by senators, legislation may be developed based on lessons learned from the tour.

PROJECT: Abandoned/Loose Livestock

COMPLETION DATE: December 2016

STAFF: Bonnie Kim
786-7316

REFERENCES: [HB 2500 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: Staff will investigate the issues triggered by wandering livestock and research solutions. These solutions may include statutory amendment and alternative enforcement programs. A committee work session may be scheduled at which this information would be key to the committee's understanding of the issue.

If requested, staff will draft legislation as directed for the 2017 legislative session.

PROJECT: Soil Acidification

COMPLETION DATE: December 2016

STAFF: Diane Smith
786-7410

REFERENCES: NA

DESCRIPTION: Literature references extending back 30 years point to the acidification of soils in the Palouse region. The vegetative effects are seen in reduced yields unless fields are amended with heavy applications of lime. Type of crop, manner of tillage, and specific form and components in the applications of lime are some of the variables. How to address this regional chemical phenomenon in a comprehensive way will be explored.

If requested, staff will prepare legislation as directed for the 2017 legislative session.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2016 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7411

September/October Time TBA	Full Committee Tour/Briefing	Eastern Washington	Rural economic development achievements & opportunities.
November 14-15 Legislative Assembly	Full Committee Work Session	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.

Senate Commerce & Labor Committee

Work Plan Summary – 2016 Interim

PROJECT: Independent Contractor or Employee

COMPLETION DATE: December 2016

STAFF: Jarrett Sacks
786-7488

REFERENCES: [HB 1519 \(2015\)](#), [SB 5566 \(2015\)](#), [SB 6289 \(2016\)](#), [SB 5983 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: State and federal laws have various tests or factors to determine whether an individual is an independent contractor or an employee. The consequences of the determination or a failure to properly classify an individual may be significant to the business, the individual, and the state. During the 2015-17 biennium, various bills were introduced regarding the independent contractor/employee issue. Staff will prepare a survey of Washington law, other states' laws, and federal law as a resource for the committee and draft bills as directed.

PROJECT: Industrial Insurance/Workers' Compensation Cost Reduction and Efficiencies

COMPLETION DATE: December 2016

STAFF: Susan Jones
786-7404

REFERENCES: [SB 5331 \(2015\)](#), [SB 5420 \(2015\)](#), [SSB 5509 \(2015\)](#), [ESB 5510 \(2015\)](#), [ESB 5513 \(2015\)](#), [SB 5516 \(2015\)](#), [SB 5576 \(2015\)](#), [SSB 6602 \(2016\)](#), [SB 6579 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: Nearly all employers in the state must provide industrial insurance through the State Fund administered by the Department of Labor and Industries (L&I). Washington is one of a small number of states that does not allow private insurers to provide industrial insurance. Legislation and an initiative have been offered in Washington in the past to allow private insurers to provide industrial insurance, create task forces, clarify occupational disease claims, and provide other options for efficiencies and cost reductions. Staff will prepare a survey of other states' laws and premium costs; gather information on cost-effective and competitiveness options; and draft bills as directed. Staff will also monitor the Worker's Compensation Advisory Committee and Benefit Accuracy Working Group meetings and implementation of recommendations from the JLARC Worker's Compensation Claims Management Report related to self-insurers.

PROJECT: Legislator's Guide to Washington's Marijuana Laws

COMPLETION DATE: January 2017

STAFF: Richard Rodger
786-7461

REFERENCES: [2SSB 5052 \(2015\)](#), [SB 5121 \(2015\)](#), [SSB 6177 \(2016\)](#), [SSB 6341 \(2016\)](#), [HB 2000 \(2015\)](#), [2E2SHB 2136 \(2015\)](#), [HB 2520 \(2016\)](#), [HB 2521 \(2016\)](#), [SHB 2584 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: The Senate Commerce & Labor Committee staff will publish a Legislator's Guide to Washington's Marijuana Laws. Members, legislative staff, and the general public can use the guide to answer basic questions about the state's current laws, including: Marijuana production, processing, and retail sales; recreational and medical marijuana; research licenses; tribal authority; tax revenues; and related federal activities. It is anticipated that the guide will be finalized before the 2017 legislative session and will be available for the committee, as well as online.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2016 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7426

Date TBA Time TBA	Full Committee Work Session	Council Chamber, Spokane City Hall, Spokane, WA	Panel discussions regarding issues and concerns surrounding the siting of licensed marijuana retail businesses.
Date TBA Time TBA	Full Committee - possible joint with other committees Tour/Briefing	Location to be announced.	Tour and briefing involving ports' issues.
Fall Time TBA	Full Committee Work Session	Eastern Washington	Industrial insurance/workers' compensation cost reduction and efficiencies.
November 14-15 Legislative Assembly	Full Committee Work Session	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.

Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education Committee

Work Plan Summary – 2016 Interim

Other Projects:

PROJECT: Annual School Safety Summit

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Ailey Kato
786-7434

REFERENCES: [ESB 6620 \(2016\)](#)
<http://www.k12.wa.us/SafetyCenter/AdvisoryMeetings.aspx>

DESCRIPTION: In 2016, the Legislature established an Annual School Safety Summit. Each annual summit must focus on establishing and monitoring the progress of a statewide plan for funding cost-effective methods for school safety that meet local needs. Other areas of focus may include planning and implementation of school safety planning efforts, training of school safety professionals, and integrating mental health and security measures. Eight legislators and a representative for the Governor will be appointed as participants no later than August 1, 2016. Other summit participants may include representatives from the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), the Department of Health, educational service districts, educational associations, emergency management, law enforcement, fire departments, parent organizations, and student organizations. OSPI and the School Safety Advisory Committee will staff the annual summit.

Committee staff will provide research and support to the legislators participating in the Annual School Safety Summit, monitor and provide updates on progress, and draft legislation as requested.

PROJECT: Joint Select Committee on Article IX Litigation

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Susan Mielke/Steve Jones
786-7422/786-7440

REFERENCES: [ESHB 2261 \(2009\)](#), [SHB 2776 \(2010\)](#), [HCR 4410 \(2012\)](#)
[Joint Select Committee on Article IX Litigation website](#)

DESCRIPTION: The Washington State Supreme Court issued its decision in *McCleary v. State*, on January 5, 2012. The Court found that the State failed to meet its paramount constitutional duty to fully fund a program of basic education. The Court retained jurisdiction to monitor the Legislature's compliance with its constitutional duty. The Legislature created the Joint Select Committee on Article IX Litigation (Committee) to facilitate communication with the Washington Supreme Court on school funding. The Committee consists of eight legislators. In July 2012 the Court directed the Joint Select Committee to report annually following enactment of each operating budget, summarizing the legislative actions taken to implement educational funding reforms and achieve compliance with Article IX of the state Constitution. To date, the Legislature has filed four reports with the Supreme Court. (September 17, 2012; August 29, 2013; April 29, 2014; and July 27, 2015).

Committee staff will provide support to the Joint Select Committee and assist with the report as directed by members of the Joint Select Committee.

PROJECT: Education Accountability System Oversight Committee

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Ailey Kato/Alia Kennedy/Susan Mielke
786-7434/786-7405/786-7422

REFERENCES: [E2SSB 5329 \(2013\)](#)
[Education Accountability System Oversight Committee website](#)

DESCRIPTION: The Education Accountability System Oversight Committee (Oversight Committee) was established in the 2013 legislative session to provide ongoing monitoring of the outcomes of the comprehensive system of recognition, support, and intervention for schools and school districts; make recommendations for changes to accountability system, if necessary; and report biennially to the education committees of the Legislature. Four members of the Senate, four members of the House of Representatives, two members appointed by the Governor; and one non-legislative member of the Educational Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee compose the membership of the Oversight Committee.

In December 2015, Congress passed and the President signed the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The ESSA requires each state educational agency to submit a redesigned Education Accountability Plan to the federal Department of Education for peer review. The plan must be developed through consultation with numerous specified stakeholders including the state legislature. The plan must assure that academic standards, assessment standards, and the educational needs of disadvantaged students are addressed.

Committee staff will provide meeting support to the Oversight Committee, provide updates to other Committee members on the progress of the Committee, draft the report at the direction of the Committee and any implementing legislation as requested.

PROJECT: Education Funding Task Force

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Alia Kennedy/Susan Mielke/Bryon Moore
786-7405/786-7422/786-7726

REFERENCES: [E2SSB 6195 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: The Legislature created the Education Funding Task Force (Task Force) for the stated purpose of continuing the work of the Governor's informal work group to make recommendations to the Legislature on implementing the program of basic education as defined by statute. The Task Force consists of eight legislators. The Task Force recommendations must be submitted to the Legislature by January 9, 2017.

Committee staff will provide meeting support to the Task Force, provide updates to other Committee members on the progress of the Task Force, draft the recommendations at the direction of the Committee and any implementing legislation as requested.

PROJECT: Early Learning Advisory Council

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Ailey Kato
786-7434

REFERENCES: [E2SSB 5828 \(2007\)](#)

Early Learning Advisory Council website:
<http://www.del.wa.gov/partnerships/elac/Default.aspx>

DESCRIPTION: In 2007, the Legislature created the Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC). ELAC was established to advise the Department of Early Learning (DEL) on statewide early learning issues that would build a comprehensive system of quality early learning programs and services for Washington's children and families by assessing needs and the availability of services, aligning resources, developing plans for data collection and professional development of early childhood educators, and establishing key performance measures. ELAC includes parents, child care providers, health and safety experts, legislators, representatives of Tribal Nations, independent schools, K-12 and higher education, and others who are interested in creating a statewide early learning system. ELAC meets quarterly, and it is staffed by DEL.

Committee staff will provide research and support to the legislators serving on ELAC, monitor and provide updates on progress, and draft legislation as requested.

PROJECT: Equal Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Ailey Kato
786-7434

REFERENCES: [2SSB 5973 \(2009\)](#)

[Equal Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee website](#)

DESCRIPTION: The Educational Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee (EOGOAC) was created in 2009 to continue to address the achievement gap in Washington. EOGOAC must recommend specific policies and strategies in a number of areas. It also may seek input and advice from other state and local agencies and organizations. EOGOAC is composed of six legislators, representatives of the Office of the Education Ombuds and Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), and five members representing the state ethnic commissions and federally recognized tribes. EOGOAC has monthly meetings, and it is staffed by OSPI.

Committee staff will provide research and support to the legislators serving on EOGOAC, monitor and provide updates on progress, and draft legislation as requested.

PROJECT: **The Every Student Succeeds Act Consolidated Planning Team**

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Susan Mielke
786-7422

REFERENCES: FEDERAL PUBLIC [LAW NO: 114-95](#)

DESCRIPTION: In December 2015, Congress passed and the President signed the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The ESSA requires each state educational agency, which in Washington State is the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), to submit a redesigned Education Accountability Plan to the federal Department of Education for peer review. The plan must be developed through consultation with numerous specified stakeholders including the state legislature. The plan must assure that academic standards, assessment standards, and the educational needs of disadvantaged students are addressed.

OSPI has invited the major caucuses of the Legislature to appoint legislators to participate as part of the team to develop the state plan.

Committee staff will provide research and support to the Senators that serve on the team, provide updates on the progress of the team, and draft legislation as requested.

PROJECT: **Financial Education Public-Private Partnership**

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Alia Kennedy
786-7405

REFERENCES: [HB 1247 \(2009\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: The Partnership was created in 2009 and is tasked with determining the best methods of equipping students with the knowledge and skills they need to make decisions regarding their personal finances. The membership includes four legislators, four representatives from the private for-profit and nonprofit financial services sector, four teachers appointed by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) with one each representing the elementary, middle, secondary, and postsecondary education sectors, a representative from the Department of Financial Institutions, and two representatives from OSPI.

Committee staff will provide research and support to the Senators that serve on the Partnership, provide updates on the progress of the Partnership, and draft legislation as requested.

PROJECT: **The Interstate Compact on Education Opportunity for Military Children**

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Alia Kennedy
786-7405

REFERENCES: [SB 5248 \(2009\)](#)
<http://www.k12.wa.us/MilitaryKids/InterstateTransfers.aspx>

DESCRIPTION: The Interstate Compact Council was created in 2009 to coordinate the state's participation in, and compliance with, the Interstate Compact. The membership includes one member from each legislative branch of government.

Committee staff will provide research and support to the Senators that serve on the Council, provide updates on the progress of the Council, and draft legislation as requested.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2016 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7420

November 14-15	Full Committee	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
Legislative Assembly	Work Session		

Senate Energy, Environment & Telecommunications Committee

Work Plan Summary – 2016 Interim

PROJECT: Clean Power Plan

COMPLETION DATE: December 2016

STAFF: Kim Cushing
786-7421

REFERENCES: NA

DESCRIPTION: In 2015 the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued the Clean Power Plan rules (CPP) for reducing carbon pollution from power plants. The CPP established interim and final carbon dioxide emission performance rates for power plants within Washington State. However, on February 9, 2016, the Supreme Court stayed implementation of the CPP pending judicial review. Judicial review is expected in June 2016.

Committee staff will follow proceedings on the CPP and assist in the preparation of any draft legislation as directed.

PROJECT: Clean Air Rule

COMPLETION DATE: December 2016

STAFF: Jane Odano
786-7486

REFERENCES: NA

DESCRIPTION: The state Department of Ecology (Ecology) began rulemaking for greenhouse gas emission standards from stationary sources combusting petroleum fuel and natural gas. These standards were proposed in the Clean Air Rule (CAR). Ecology held several stakeholder meetings to obtain input and feedback on the proposed rule. On February 16, 2016, Ecology withdrew the proposed rule with the intent to continue working with stakeholders to update the rule language. New proposed rule language is expected in the spring of 2016 with a finalized rule in late summer 2016.

Committee staff will track Ecology's rulemaking process, attend stakeholder meetings, and assist in the preparation of any draft legislation as directed.

PROJECT: I-732

COMPLETION DATE: December 2016

STAFF: Jan Odano/Kim Cushing
786-7486/786-7421

REFERENCES: NA

DESCRIPTION: Initiative 732 (I-732), regarding a carbon pollution tax, was submitted to the Legislature in January 2016. If the Legislature does not act on I-732, it will be placed on Washington's November ballot. I-732 establishes a phased-in carbon pollution tax (carbon tax) on fossil fuels sold or used in Washington and on the consumption or generation of electricity in Washington. The revenue generated from the carbon tax will be used to offset a 1 percent reduction of state sales tax, a reduction of the business and occupation tax on manufacturing, and the implementation and enhancement of the Working Family Tax Exemption.

Committee staff will monitor voter action on I-732 and assist in the preparation of any draft legislation as directed.

PROJECT: **Clean Energy Economy**

COMPLETION DATE: December 2016

STAFF: Jan Odano/Jeff Olsen
786-7486/786-7428

REFERENCES: [SB 6545 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: According to data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) in 2014, Washington had the lowest average combined retail electricity price across all sectors and ranked Washington 50th in carbon dioxide emissions from the generation of electricity in 2013. Washington's affordable energy and low carbon emissions should be evaluated as an economic development tool to increase the manufacturing sector. The Trade and Economic Development Committee and the Energy, Environment and Telecommunications Committee will hold one meeting in Western Washington and one meeting in Eastern Washington to discuss the state's energy, environmental, regulatory, and tax policies to enhance the health of Washington's manufacturing sector by taking advantage of Washington's clean and affordable energy. Options will be developed for the 2017 legislative session.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2016 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7406

Date TBA Time TBA	Full Committee - Joint with Senate Trade and Economic Development Committee Work Session/Tour	Walla Walla, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
Date TBA Time TBA	Full Committee - Joint with Senate Trade and Economic Development Committee Work Session/Tour	Location to be announced.	Agenda items to be announced.
Date TBA Time TBA	Full Committee Work Session	Location to be announced.	Nuclear Energy.
Date TBA Time TBA	Full Committee - Possibly Joint with Senate Government Operations & Security Committee Work Session/Tour	Location to be announced.	Tour and briefings on port issues.

November 14-15 Full Committee Olympia, WA Agenda items to be announced.
Legislative Assembly Work Session

Senate Financial Institutions & Insurance Committee

Work Plan Summary – 2016 Interim

PROJECT: Barriers to Affordable Housing

COMPLETION DATE: December 2016

STAFF: Shani Bauer
786-7468

REFERENCES: NA

DESCRIPTION: The Senate Financial Institutions & Insurance Committee will conduct a series of three meetings across the state to hear issues relating to the impediments to affordable housing. The committee anticipates hearing presentations on the current state of government spending, the availability of rental housing and home ownership, and how the status of affordable housing has changed from before the recession until today.

Committee staff will provide support and assistance as directed by the Committee members and draft legislation as requested.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2016 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7409

Date TBA Time TBA	Full Committee Work Session	Spokane, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
Date TBA Time TBA	Full Committee Work Session	Arlington, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
Date TBA Time TBA	Full Committee Work Session	Pierce County, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
November 14-15 Legislative Assembly	Full Committee Work Session	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.

Senate Government Operations & Security Committee Work Plan Summary – 2016 Interim

PROJECT: Washington's Ports - Tours and Briefings

COMPLETION DATE: December 2016

STAFF: Karen Epps/Alex Kearns
786-7424/786-7416

REFERENCES: [ESB 6631 \(2016\)](#), [SB 6681 \(2016\)](#), [SJM 8017 \(2016\)](#), [SHB 1170 \(2015\)](#), [SJM 8009 \(2015\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: Washington ports are facing greater and greater competition from other ports in the Western hemisphere. The ports of Seattle and Tacoma joined forces in August 2015 to unify management of their marine cargo facilities and business to strengthen the Puget Sound gateway and attract more marine cargo and jobs for the region. Committee staff will plan briefings and coordinate committee tours of four Washington ports, possibly together with the Commerce & Labor Committee, the Energy, Environment & Telecommunications Committee, and the Trade and Economic Development Committee. Briefings may include the following: the importance of trade and ports on Washington's economy; ways to avoid diversion of cargo to port facilities in other states or other countries; employment, training, and security at ports; land use, transportation, and environmental issues facing ports; and infrastructure needs for ports. Legislation will be drafted as requested.

PROJECT: State Emergency Preparedness - Readiness for Responding to Natural Disasters and Other Threats

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Sam Brown
786-7470

REFERENCES: [HB 1389 \(2015\)](#), [SB 5181 \(2015\)](#), [HB 1047 \(2015\)](#), [SB 5020 \(2015\)](#), [SB 6553 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: The Military Department administers the state's comprehensive emergency management program and engages in public outreach about both disaster preparedness and state disaster response programs. The Military Department's Emergency Management Division (EMD) notifies and alerts state agencies and local governments of impending emergencies and disasters. During state emergencies, EMD manages the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) on Camp Murray and coordinates the response to ensure help is provided to those who need it quickly and effectively. The EOC is the central location for information gathering, disaster analysis, and response coordination. In partnership with FEMA Region X, Washington State will conduct Cascadia Rising 2016, a Catastrophic Earthquake and Tsunami Functional Exercise, the week of June 6-10, 2016. Committee staff will monitor the functional exercise and draft any legislation as requested.

Other Projects:

PROJECT: Joint Committee on Veterans' and Military Affairs

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Sam Brown/Karen Epps
786-7470/786-7424

REFERENCES: [RCW 73.04.150](#), [Committee Webpage](#)

DESCRIPTION: The Joint Committee on Veterans' and Military Affairs (JCVMA) is a bipartisan committee formed to study and explore veterans' and military issues. The JCVMA is comprised of 16 members from the House of Representatives and the Senate empowered to study and make recommendations to the Legislature on veterans' issues, active military forces issues, and National Guard and reserve component issues. Committee staff will work with House staff and schedule public hearings, work sessions, and tours for the JCVMA. Legislation will be drafted as requested.

PROJECT: Public Records Exemptions Accountability Committee (Sunshine Committee)

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Sam Brown
786-7470

REFERENCES: [RCW 42.56.140](#), [Committee Webpage](#)

DESCRIPTION: The Sunshine Committee is a 13-member committee created in 2007 to review all exemptions from public disclosure requirements. The Sunshine Committee makes annual recommendations to the Legislature on whether to maintain, modify, or terminate each exemption. The Sunshine Committee will hold meetings in of 2016. Last year, the Sunshine Committee requested assistance from committee staff in cross-referencing its schedule of review with legislative committee assignments and providing background information on specific exemptions. Committee staff work with the Sunshine Committee to develop additional information related to the Sunshine Committee's schedule of review and monitor the Sunshine Committee meetings during the interim. Legislation will be drafted as requested.

PROJECT: Legislative Oral History Advisory Committee

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Sam Brown/Alex Kearns
786-7470/786-7416

REFERENCES: [RCW 44.04.325](#), [Committee Webpage](#)

DESCRIPTION: The Legislative Oral History Advisory Committee (LOHAC) is a bipartisan, bicameral committee created in 1991 to advise the Secretary of the Senate and Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives on the conduct of the Legislature's oral history program. LOHAC responsibilities include selection of oral history subjects, selection of transcripts and historical material for publication, and providing advice on technical matters related to production of legislative oral histories. Funding was provided for LOHAC activities in the 2015-17 biennial operating budget. Committee staff will work with House staff to schedule public hearings and work sessions and provide any research assistance as requested by LOHAC members.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2016 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7447

May Time TBA	Full Committee - Possibly Joint with Other Committees Work Session/Tour	Location to be announced.	Tour and briefings on port issues.
June Time TBA	Full Committee - Possibly Joint with Other Committees Work Session/Tour	Location to be announced.	Tour and briefings on port issues.
July Time TBA	Full Committee - Possibly Joint with Other Committees Work Session/Tour	Location to be announced.	Tour and briefings on port issues.
September Time TBA	Full Committee - Possibly Joint with Other Committees Work Session/Tour	Location to be announced.	Tour and briefings on port issues.
November 14-15 Legislative Assembly	Full Committee Work Session	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.

Other Meetings:

Date TBA Time TBA	Veteran's & Military Affairs, Jt. Committee Tour/Work Session	Location to be announced.	Agenda items to be announced.
Date TBA Time TBA	Veteran's & Military Affairs, Jt. Committee Work Session	Location to be announced.	Agenda items to be announced.
Date TBA Time TBA	Veteran's & Military Affairs, Jt. Committee Work Session	Location to be announced.	Agenda items to be announced.

Date TBA
Time TBA

Legislative Oral History
Advisory Committee
Work Session

Location to be
announced.

Agenda items to be announced.

Date TBA
Time TBA

Legislative Oral History
Advisory Committee
Work Session

Location to be
announced.

Agenda items to be announced.

Senate Health Care Committee

Work Plan Summary – 2016 Interim

PROJECT: Collaborative for the Advancement of Telemedicine

COMPLETION DATE: December 2018

STAFF: Mich'I Needham
786-7442

REFERENCES: [SSB 6519 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: The Collaborative for the Advancement of Telemedicine is created to enhance the understanding of health services through telemedicine. The Collaborative will be convened by the University of Washington Telehealth Services and participants include four legislators, representatives of the academic community, hospitals, clinics, health care providers in primary care and specialty care, health insurance carriers, and other interested parties. SCS Health Care Committee staff will monitor the Collaborative on behalf of the members of the Health Care Committee.

The Collaborative must develop recommendations on improving reimbursement and access to services, identify telemedicine best practices, and make recommendations on whether to create a technical assistance center to support providers in implementing or expanding services delivered through telemedicine.

An initial progress report is due December 1, 2016 with follow-up reports due December 1, 2017 and December 1, 2018. The Collaborative terminates December 31, 2018.

PROJECT: Pharmacy Chain of Supply Study

COMPLETION DATE: November 1, 2016

STAFF: Mich'I Needham
786-7442

REFERENCES: [5ESSB 5857 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: The Office of the Insurance Commission must complete a study of the pharmacy chain of supply to review the entire drug supply chain including plan and PBM reimbursements to network pharmacies, wholesaler or pharmacy service administrative organization prices, and drug manufacturer prices to network pharmacies. The study must also: address small and rural pharmacies and the unique nature of their businesses, review the availability of all drugs on the maximum allowable cost list, review appeals and denials data, review telephone contacts and response times, and review pharmacy acquisition costs.

The study must be completed by November 1, 2016 and will be monitored by SCS Health Care Committee staff on behalf of the Health Care Committee.

PROJECT: Joint Select Committee on Health Care Oversight

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Mich'I Needham/Kathy Buchli/Evan Klein
786-7442/786-7488/786-7483

REFERENCES: [E2SHB 2572 - SEC. 3 \(2014\)](#)
<http://www.leg.wa.gov/JointCommittees/HCOJSC/Pages/default.aspx>

DESCRIPTION: Several agencies and entities have a role in implementing health care policy in Washington, including the Office of the Insurance Commissioner, the Department of Health, the Department of Social and Health Services, the Health Care Authority, and the Health Benefit Exchange. The Joint Select Committee on Health Care Oversight will provide oversight between these agencies and organizations. This oversight will include monitoring of each entity's activities to ensure they are not duplicating their efforts and are working towards a goal of increased quality of service.

PROJECT: Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Aging and Disability

COMPLETION DATE: December 2016

STAFF: Kathy Buchli
786-7488

REFERENCES: [ESSB 6052 - SEC. 206 \(2015\)](#)
http://leg.wa.gov/JointCommittees/ADJLEC/Documents/Addendum_Report_2015.pdf
<http://leg.wa.gov/JointCommittees/ADJLEC/Pages/default.aspx>

DESCRIPTION: The Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Aging and Disability Issues (Committee) was established in the 2013-15 operating budget. The Committee was charged with the responsibility to identify strategic actions to prepare for the aging of Washington's population.

ESSB 6052, sec. 206 (2015) continued the Joint Legislative Executive Committee (JLEC) on Aging and Disability and added the following members: a member from the Disability Rights Washington; a member from the Long-Term Care Ombuds; the Insurance Commissioner or his or her designee; and other agency directors or designees as necessary.

ESSB 6052 also modified the duties of the JLEC to include requirements to:

1. Identify strategies to promote palliative care planning;
2. Identify implementation strategies for the Bree collaborative palliative care and related guidelines;
3. Review the regulation of continuing care retirement communities and ways to protect those who reside in them;
4. Identify the needs for high quality public and private guardianship services and information about assisted-decision making options;
5. Identify options for promoting client safety and protecting vulnerable adults from physical abuse and financial exploitation; and
6. Identify other policy options and recommendation to help communities plan for housing, land use, and transportation needs of the aging population.

An interim addendum report was completed in December 2015.

A final report must be completed by December 10, 2016.

PROJECT: Patient Out-of-Pocket Task Force

COMPLETION DATE: December 2016

STAFF: Evan Klein
786-7483

REFERENCES: [SSB 6569 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: The Department of Health must convene a task force on patient out-of-pocket costs. The Task Force must include representatives from all participants with a role in determining the prescription drugs costs and out-of-pocket costs for patients and must evaluate factors contributing to the out-of-pocket costs for patients. Recommendations or a summary of the discussions must be provided to the appropriate committees of the Legislature by December 1, 2016. Health Care Committee staff will monitor the Task Force on behalf of the Health Care Committee.

PROJECT: Joint Legislative Executive Overtime Oversight Task Force

COMPLETION DATE: December 2016

STAFF: Kathy Buchli
786-7488

REFERENCES: [E2SHB 1725 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: The Joint Legislative-Executive Overtime Oversight Task Force is created to monitor spending and drivers of overtime costs of individual providers. The Task Force consists of members of the Legislature, members representing the Department of Social and Health Services and the Office of Financial Management, and members representing individual providers and consumers. The Department of Social and Health Services must submit quarterly expenditure reports on the number of individual providers receiving overtime pay, the number of hours paid in excess of forty hours in a work week and the reasons for payment of the overtime hours. Health Care Committee staff will monitor the Task Force on behalf of the Health Care Committee.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2016 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7456

November 14-15	Full Committee	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
Legislative Assembly	Work Session		

Other Meetings:

June	Aging and Disability, Joint Legislative Executive Committee	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
Time TBA	Work Session		

October/November	Aging and Disability, Joint Legislative Executive Committee	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
Time TBA	Work Session		

July
Time TBA
Health Care Oversight,
Jt. Sel. Committee
Olympia, WA
Work Session
Agenda items to be announced.

October
Time TBA
Health Care Oversight,
Jt. Sel. Committee
Olympia, WA
Work Session
Agenda items to be announced.

Senate Higher Education Committee

Work Plan Summary – 2016 Interim

PROJECT: Review Processes for Nominating and Confirming Gubernatorial Appointments in Higher Education

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Clint McCarthy
786-7319

REFERENCES: NA

DESCRIPTION: Staff will work with stakeholders in the executive and legislative branch to review processes used to nominate and confirm gubernatorial appointments. The goal of this review is to get a better understanding of the processes that the executive branch uses for nominating trustees, and identify opportunities for process improvements related to how information on nominees is collected and shared.

Other Projects:

PROJECT: Task Force on Campus Sexual Violence Prevention

COMPLETION DATE: November 2016

STAFF: Evan Klein
786-7483

REFERENCES: [SSB 5719 \(2015\)](http://www.councilofpresidents.org/safewacampus.html)
<http://www.councilofpresidents.org/safewacampus.html>

DESCRIPTION: During the 2015 legislative session, the Legislature established the Task Force on Campus Sexual Violence Prevention to develop best practices and recommendations for improving campus sexual violence policies at Washington institutions of higher education. The task force met monthly during the 2015 interim to discuss best practices for promoting awareness of campus sexual violence, recommendations for improving institutional campus sexual violence policies, and recommendations for improving collaboration. The Task Force reported on its interim work in December of 2015.

The Task Force will continue to meet throughout the 2016 interim to develop best practices and recommendations. The Task Force must report its final findings to the Legislature and the institutions of higher education by December 31, 2016.

PROJECT: Implementation of the Washington College Savings Plan

COMPLETION DATE: November 2017

STAFF: Clint McCarthy
786-7319

REFERENCES: [E2SB 6601 \(2016\)](#)
<http://leg.wa.gov/Senate/Committees/HIED/Documents/N/A.pdf>
<http://www.get.wa.gov/>

DESCRIPTION: During the 2016 legislative session, the Legislature established the Washington College Savings Program to provide an additional financial option for individuals, organizations, and families to save for college. E2SB 6601 authorizes the Guaranteed Education Tuition Committee to choose either the Washington State Investment Board or a non-state entity to be the investment manager for the new savings program. The GET Committee is expected to meet regularly during the summer of 2016 to get input from stakeholders while developing a plan for implementing the savings program. The program is expected to be open for establishing new savings account in January 2017.

Staff will attend GET committee meetings and provide reports back to legislators.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2016 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7415

November 14-15	Full Committee	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
Legislative Assembly	Work Session		

Senate Human Services, Mental Health & Housing Committee

Work Plan Summary – 2016 Interim

PROJECT: Office of Homeless Youth Prevention and Protection Programs Advisory Committee

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Alison Mendiola
786-7444

REFERENCES: [2SSB 5404 \(2015\)](#)
<http://www.commerce.wa.gov/Programs/housing/Homeless/Pages/youth.aspx>

DESCRIPTION: In 2015, the Legislature passed 2SSB 5404. 2SSB 5404 created the Office of Homeless Youth Prevention and Protection Programs (Office) and an Advisory Committee. The Office is to submit a report to the Governor and Legislature by December 1, 2016 that includes recommendations for funding, policy, and best practices in five priority areas which includes stable housing, family reconciliation, permanent connections, education and employment, and social and emotional well-being for homeless youth. The Advisory Committee, which includes a member from each caucus of each chamber of the Legislature, will meet throughout the interim to develop recommendations for the Office. Staff will monitor the work of the Advisory Committee and provide member support, which may include drafting of proposed legislation as requested.

PROJECT: Children's Mental Health Work Group

COMPLETION DATE: December 2016

STAFF: Kevin Black
786-7747

REFERENCES: [E2SHB 2439 - SEC. 2 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: The Children's Mental Health Work Group will meet during the 2016 interim to identify barriers to accessing mental health services for children and families, and to advise the Legislature on statewide mental health services for this population. Areas of focus include recommendations for developmentally, culturally, and linguistically appropriate assessment tools and diagnostic approaches, identification of barriers to billing and payment for behavioral health services provided within primary care settings, outreach strategies, and workforce issues. Four legislators must be appointed to the work group and a final report is due on December 1, 2016.

PROJECT: Select Committee on Quality Improvement in State Hospitals

COMPLETION DATE: July 2019

STAFF: Kevin Black
786-7747

REFERENCES: [ESSB 6656 - SEC. 3 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: The Select Committee must receive updates, monitor, and make recommendations related to state hospital planning and administration. Specified areas of intervention include reviewing the recommendations of consultants and reviewing recommendations for use of monies in the Governor's Behavioral Health Innovation Fund. The Select Committee must also review a detailed transition plan to be created by the Department of Social and Health Services to change the financing structure for the state hospital to incentivize diversion and community treatment. Eight Legislative members must be appointed to the Select Committee, which must meet at least quarterly until July 1, 2019.

PROJECT: Monitor Implementation of Joel's Law

COMPLETION DATE: December 2016

STAFF: Kevin Black
786-7747

REFERENCES: [E2SSB 5269 \(2015\)](#)
http://leg.wa.gov/Senate/Committees/HSMH&H/Documents/https://www.courts.wa.gov/forms/documents/WPF_MP_01.0600_Petition_for_Initial_Detention_by_Family_Guardian,_or_Conservator_Packet_2015_11.pdf.pdf

DESCRIPTION: Joel's Law, passed in 2015, allows an immediate family member, guardian, or conservator of a person who is the subject of a mental health civil commitment investigation who disagrees with a decision to not commit the person to petition superior court for review of that decision. Data from the first six months of implementation show 56 petitions filed in 14 counties, with a rate of success or agreed resolution of around 18 percent. Staff will request updated implementation data from the Administrative Office of the Courts and interview selected informants about the implementation process.

PROJECT: Protection for Persons with Developmental Disabilities

COMPLETION DATE: December 2016

STAFF: Kevin Black
786-7747

REFERENCES: [E2SSB 6564 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 6564 requires the Developmental Disability Administration (DDA) to increase home visits for DDA clients identified as having high risk for abuse and neglect. It also requires the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) to expand vulnerable adult fatality reviews for persons receiving DSHS services in their home or in licensed or certified settings, and requires the Department of Commerce to enter a contract to establish an Office of the Developmental Disabilities Ombuds. Staff will monitor the implementation of the policies by these agencies.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2016 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7414

November 14-15 Legislative Assembly	Full Committee Work Session	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
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Other Meetings:

Date TBA Time TBA	Legislative-Executive WorkFirst Oversight Task Force Work Session	Location to be announced.	Agenda items to be announced.
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Date TBA Time TBA	Children's Legislative Oversight Committee Work Session	Location to be announced.	Agenda items to be announced.
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Date TBA
Time TBA

Children's Mental
Health Work Group
Work Session

Location to be
announced.

Agenda items to be announced.

Senate Law & Justice Committee

Work Plan Summary – 2016 Interim

PROJECT: Body Camera Task Force

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Tim Ford
786-7423

REFERENCES: [EHB 2362 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: The legislature enacted EHB 2362 concerning body camera recordings made by law enforcement or corrections officers. EHB 2362 establishes provisions governing disclosure of body camera recordings, and requires law enforcement or corrections agencies deploying body cameras to develop policies regarding their uses. EHB 2362 also creates a task force to review and report on the use of body cameras by law enforcement and corrections agencies. The task force must consider the use of body cameras in health care facilities, costs assessed to requesters, model policies, retention and retrieval of data, and the use of body cameras for gathering evidence, surveillance, and police accountability. The task force must report its findings to the Governor and Legislature by December 1, 2017. Staff will support the task force with its meetings, and the drafting of required reports as requested.

PROJECT: Biometric Identifiers

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Tim Ford
786-7423

REFERENCES: [2ESHB 1094 \(2015\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: Biometric identifiers are measurements of physical or biological characteristics, such as a fingerprint, voiceprint, eye retinas, or other unique characteristics used to identify an individual. The House passed 2ESHB 1094 regulating the commercial use of biometric identifiers. 2ESHB 1094 requires conspicuous notice and affirmative consent before biometric data may be used for a commercial purpose. It restricts the transfer or sale of biometric data to third parties, and provides enforcement by the Attorney General under the Consumer Protection Act. Staff will research other states regulation of biometric data and draft legislation as requested.

PROJECT: Guardianship Visitation

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Tim Ford
786-7423

REFERENCES: [SB 6235 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: A person may be legally incapacitated, either by their person or estate, when the individual has a significant risk of personal harm based upon a demonstrated inability to adequately provide for oneself nutrition, health, housing, or physical safety; or poses a significant risk of financial harm. A guardian may be a lay guardian - generally a family member or friend of the alleged incapacitated person - or a professional guardian, who charges a fee to provide guardianship services. Professional guardians are regulated by the Certified Professional Guardianship Board. The court has supervisory power over guardianships, and may modify a guardianship or remove a guardian upon petition and showing of good cause. SB 6235, if passed, would have required a court order to authorize a guardian to restrict an incapacitated person's right of communication, visitation, or interaction with other persons, including the right to receive visitors, telephone calls, or personal mail. Staff will research guardianship laws in other states and draft legislation as requested.

PROJECT: Workgroup on Traffic-Based Financial Obligations

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Aldo Melchiori
786-7439

REFERENCES: [SSB 6360 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: If a court determines that a person is unable to pay traffic fines immediately and less than one year has passed since the infraction became due, the court is required to enter into a payment plan with the person. Failure to respond to the notice, pay the fine, or comply with a payment plan results in license suspension. Spokane and King county have established relicensing programs that enable drivers whose licenses are suspended for delinquent traffic fines to consolidate their fines into an affordable payment plan and have their licenses reinstated. SSB 6360 established a work group of stakeholders, convened by the Office of the Attorney General, to receive input and provide feedback on a plan and the program for the efficient statewide consolidation of an individual's traffic-based financial obligations imposed by courts of limited jurisdiction into a unified and affordable payment plan. The work group must provide final feedback and recommendations to the AGO no later than September 15, 2017. Staff will monitor and report work group activities.

PROJECT: Life Issues

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Aldo Melchiori
786-7439

REFERENCES: [SB 5919 \(2015\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: Under current law, terminally ill adults who want to end their life may request a prescription for a lethal dose of medication. SB 5919 would require a doctor to inform patients, requesting a lethal dose of medication, of feasible alternatives including, but not limited to, comfort care, hospice care, pain control, treatment for the purpose of cure, and treatment for the purpose of extending the patient's life. Staff will research issues including the life of preborn individuals, end of life issues, and death penalty issues, and draft legislation as requested.

PROJECT: Task Force on Community Policing Standards

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Lindsay Erickson
786-7465

REFERENCES: [ESHB 2908 \(2016\)](#), [SB 6612 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: EHB 2908 established a joint legislative task force, including leadership by legislative members, on the use of deadly force in community policing. The task force must: (1) review laws, practices, and training programs regarding the use of deadly force in Washington state and other states; (2) review current policies, practices, and tools used by or otherwise available to law enforcement as an alternative to lethal uses of force, including tasers and other nonlethal weapons; and (3) recommend best practices to reduce the number of violent interactions between law enforcement officers and members of the public. A report must be submitted to the Governor and the appropriate committees of the Legislature by December 1, 2016. Staff will provide administrative and research support to the task force and draft legislation as directed.

PROJECT: Habitual Property Crime

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Lindsay Erickson
786-7465

REFERENCES: [SB 5503 \(2015\)](#), [SB 6350 \(2016\)](#), [SB 5755 \(2015\)](#), [HB 1885 \(2015\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: Property crimes in Washington remains an issue frequently before the Legislature. SB 5503 (2015) attempted to address the issue by providing a special allegation and sentence enhancement for habitual property offenders. SB 6350 (2016) proposed enhanced penalties at sentencing for offenders who repeatedly commit certain vehicle property offenses. Other property crime legislation proposed in 2015 created a new felony property offense sentencing grid with reduced standard ranges and imposed 12 months of community custody for a felony property offense when the offender had an offender score of two or more. Staff will survey other states to determine how they address the issue of career property offenders. Staff will work with legislators and interested parties to identify remaining issues and options to address them. Legislation will be drafted as requested.

PROJECT: Civil Forfeiture

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Lindsay Erickson
786-7465

REFERENCES: [SB 5751 \(2015\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: The civil forfeiture provisions under the Uniform Controlled Substances Act (UCSA) provide that no property right exists in the controlled substances themselves, and any real property used with the knowledge of the owner for the manufacturing or processing of any controlled substance is subject to forfeiture. SB 5751 would require that in all civil forfeiture cases brought under the UCSA, the law enforcement agency must establish that the property is subject to forfeiture by clear, cogent, and convincing evidence rather than by a preponderance of the evidence. Staff will research civil forfeiture laws of other states and prepare legislation as requested.

PROJECT: Visitation with a Child by a Relative

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Melissa Burke-Cain
786-7755

REFERENCES: [SB 6658 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: Proposed SB 6658 permits grandparents and other third parties to petition the court for visitation with a child. Several U.S. Supreme Court decisions impose a threshold standing requirement for a petitioner to have a substantial preexisting relationship with the child. SB 6658 directs the court to order grandparent visitation if the child would likely suffer harm, or significant risk of harm if visitation is not allowed. There are specific considerations a court must apply for its findings. Staff will work with legislators and interested parties to identify issues and options to address them. Legislation will be drafted as requested.

PROJECT: Human Trafficking and Internet Crimes Against Children Task Forces

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Melissa Burke-Cain
786-7755

REFERENCES: [SB 5880 \(2015\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: Proposed SB 5880 would find that human trafficking is a horrific problem in the United States, and that children are specifically vulnerable to become victims of human trafficking. Proposed SB 5880 would create a joint task force to recommend a curriculum for a one hour online training on human trafficking and its risks. The training is for businesses, such as establishments with a liquor license or adult entertainment license, and also first responders likely to come into contact with persons forced into sex trade. The task force is required to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and Legislature. The Internet Crimes against Children (ICAC) task force is an existing separate task force started by the United States Department of Justice. The ICAC task force mission is to help state and local law enforcement agencies develop an effective response to cyber enticement and child pornography cases. This help encompasses forensic and investigative components, training and technical assistance, victim services, and community education. Staff will work with legislators and interested parties to identify issues and options to address them. Legislation will be drafted as requested.

PROJECT: Surety Treatment Bonds for Specialty or Therapeutic Courts

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Melissa Burke-Cain
786-7755

REFERENCES: [SB 6556 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: The Legislature has authorized local jurisdictions to create specialty courts or therapeutic courts for a variety of purposes including but not limited to adult and juvenile drug court; family dependency treatment court; mental health court; and DUI court. Therapeutic court is an alternative to the traditional criminal and civil court track with the goal of decreased recidivism, safety of the community, and improving the life of the participant by focusing on the specific individual's needs. Under SB 6556 a therapeutic court may require a surety treatment bond to ensure the participation of a juvenile or adult offender in a treatment program. Staff will research therapeutic courts and specialty bonds, and draft legislation as requested.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2016 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7455

May 26 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Full Committee Work Session	Puyallup City Hall, Council Chamber, Puyallup, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
Date TBA Time TBA	Full Committee Work Session	Location to be announced.	Agenda items to be announced.
November 14-15 Legislative Assembly	Full Committee Work Session	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.

Senate Natural Resources & Parks Committee

Work Plan Summary – 2016 Interim

PROJECT: Wildland Fire Management

COMPLETION DATE: December 2016

STAFF: Bonnie Kim
786-7316

REFERENCES: [ESHB 2093 \(2015\)](#), [SB 6657 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: In 2016, the Senate Natural Resources & Parks Committee considered several bills related to wildland fire management, including bills that created a long-term strategic plan, updated the smoke management plan, created a local fire severity program, and increased fire suppression resources to bolster initial attack. Over the interim, Senate committee staff will monitor continuing agency and stakeholder dialog on these issues, including progress on work by the wildland fire advisory committee, and provide information, support, and drafting services to members as requested.

PROJECT: State Parks Planning Issues

COMPLETION DATE: December 2016

STAFF: Curt Gavigan
786-7437

REFERENCES: [SSB 6377 \(2016\)](#), [E2SHB 2667 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: In 2016, the Senate Natural Resources & Parks Committee considered legislation and held work sessions on state park planning issues, including State Edward State Park planning and real estate planning involving recreational development on land managed by the State Parks and Recreation Commission. Over the interim, Senate committee staff will monitor continuing agency and stakeholder dialog on these issues, and provide information, support, and drafting services to members as requested.

PROJECT: Fishery and Hatchery Management

COMPLETION DATE: December 2016

STAFF: Curt Gavigan/Bonnie Kim
786-7437/786-7316

REFERENCES: [SB 6274 \(2016\)](#), [SB 6414 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: In recent years, the Senate Natural Resources & Parks Committee has regularly considered legislation and held work sessions on fishery and hatchery management issues, including those relating to hatchery permitting, fishery management, program funding, and season setting. Over the interim, Senate committee staff will monitor continuing agency and stakeholder dialog on these issues, and provide information, support, and drafting services to members as requested.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2016 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7419

Date TBA	Full Committee	Westport, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
Time TBA	Tour/Work Session		

2 interim meetings Date/Time TBA	Full Committee Tour/Work Session	Locations to be announced.	Agenda items to be announced.
November 14-15 Legislative Assembly	Full Committee Work Session	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.

Senate Trade & Economic Development Committee

Work Plan Summary – 2016 Interim

PROJECT: Clean Energy Economy

COMPLETION DATE: December 2016

STAFF: Jeff Olsen/Jan Odano
786-7428/786-7486

REFERENCES: [SB 6545 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: According to data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) in 2014, Washington had the lowest average combined retail electricity price across all sectors and ranked Washington 50th in carbon dioxide emissions from the generation of electricity in 2013. Washington's affordable energy and low carbon emissions should be evaluated as an economic development tool to increase the manufacturing sector. The Trade and Economic Development Committee and the Energy, Environment and Telecommunications Committee will hold one meeting in Western Washington and one meeting in Eastern Washington to discuss the state's energy, environmental, regulatory, and tax policies to enhance the health of Washington's manufacturing sector by taking advantage of Washington's clean and affordable energy. Options will be developed for the 2017 legislative session.

PROJECT: Maintaining and Growing Maritime Trade

COMPLETION DATE: December 2016

STAFF: Jeff Olsen
786-7428

REFERENCES: NA

DESCRIPTION: Timely import and export of goods are critical for the success of Washington's trade-dependent businesses. Disruptions to trade may result in both short term and long term impacts. Options will be developed for the 2017 legislative session for maintaining and growing maritime trade for Washington businesses.

PROJECT: Reduce Regulatory Burdens on Businesses

COMPLETION DATE: December 2016

STAFF: Jeff Olsen
786-7428

REFERENCES: [SB 2959 \(2016\)](#), [SB 6033 \(2015\)](#), [SB 6669 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: The Trade and Economic Development Committee heard testimony from small businesses with limited resources that have difficulty complying with regulations. The Office of Regulatory Assistance and the Department of Commerce assist businesses with the regulatory process. The Committee will examine regulations affecting small businesses and look at options to reduce compliance costs, and evaluate the costs and benefits of streamlining state regulatory assistance.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2016 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7408

Date TBA Time TBA	Full Committee - Possibly Joint with Government Operations & Security Committee) Work Session/Tour	Location to be announced.	Tour and briefings on port issues.
Date TBA Time TBA	Full Committee - Joint with Energy, Environment & Telecommunications Committee) Work Session/Tour	Walla Walla, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
Date TBA Time TBA	Full Committee - Joint with Energy, Environment & Telecommunications Committee) Work Session/Tour	Location to be announced.	Agenda items to be announced.
November 14-15 Legislative Assembly	Full Committee Work Session	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
Other Meetings:			
Date TBA Time TBA	Joint Legislative Trade Policy Committee Work Session/Tour	Location to be announced.	Agenda items to be announced.

Senate Transportation Committee

Work Plan Summary – 2016 Interim

PROJECT: 2016 Legislative Budget Notes

COMPLETION DATE: Fall 2016

STAFF: David Ward
786-7341

REFERENCES: http://leap.leg.wa.gov/leap/budget/index_lbns.asp

DESCRIPTION: Legislative fiscal staff in the Senate and House will work together with the Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program Committee staff to publish the Legislative Budget Notes (LBN) in the fall of 2016. The LBN is a publication that represents the official record of legislative action on the omnibus operating, transportation, and capital budgets. It is used by legislators, legislative staff, state agencies, and the general public to determine the legislative intent behind the hundreds of policy changes embedded in the three major documents.

PROJECT: Washington State Patrol Recruitment and Retention Studies

COMPLETION DATE: December 2016

STAFF: Kellee Keegan
786-7429

REFERENCES: [E2SHB 2872 - SEC. 3 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: The Legislature directed three agencies to study issues surrounding the recruitment and retention of Washington State Patrol (WSP) officers. Committee staff will monitor the following three studies relating to WSP recruitment and retention:

1. A study on the organization of the WSP to implement the changes in the 2015 "Joint Transportation Committee Recruitment and Retention Study" (JTC Study) performed by the Office of Financial Management and an independent consultant and delivered to the legislative transportation committees by September 1, 2016.
 2. An action plan and implementation strategy by the WSP based on recommendations in the JTC Study delivered to the legislative transportation committees by November 15, 2016.
 3. A review, with recommendations, by the Select Committee on Pension Policy on pension-related items in the JTC Study delivered to the executive and legislative branches by November 1, 2016.
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PROJECT: Rail Safety Consolidation at UTC (2017-2019)

COMPLETION DATE: December 31, 2016

STAFF: Kelly Simpson
786-7430

REFERENCES: [2ESHB 1299 - SEC. 204\(4\) \(2015\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: The 2015-2017 biennial transportation budget directed the Joint Transportation Committee to undertake a study in the 2017-2019 biennium of consolidating rail employee safety and regulatory functions in the Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC). It was intended that the study will include a review of information provided by the UTC in 2016, based on work by a state agency workgroup coordinated by the UTC to identify the issues, laws, and regulations relevant to the consolidation. Committee staff will monitor the work of the state agency workgroup, which is expected to begin meeting in the Spring of 2016.

PROJECT: Study of Road-Rail Conflicts in Cities

COMPLETION DATE: December 2016

STAFF: Hayley Gamble
786-7452

REFERENCES: [2ESHB 1299 - SEC. 204\(3\) \(2015\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: The 2015-2017 biennial transportation budget funded a Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) study of road-rail conflicts in cities, with a goal of recommending a corridor-based process to prioritize projects addressing the impacts of increased rail traffic. The study must also consider “the critical role of freight movement to the Washington economy and the state’s competitiveness in world trade.” As such, the JTC study must use the results of a study to be conducted in 2015 by the Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board (FMSIB) of freight infrastructure needs, including an update of long-term marine cargo forecast. A final JTC report is due on December 1, 2016. Committee Staff will work with JTC and FMSIB staff and other stakeholders on both reports, and draft any relevant legislation if required.

PROJECT: Tolling Program Improvement Implementation

COMPLETION DATE: December 2016

STAFF: Brian Connell
786-7346

REFERENCES: [ESHB 2524 - SEC. 205\(3\), SEC. 209 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: The Legislature directed the Washington State Transportation Commission to consider and affect certain changes to the Interstate 405 Express Toll Lanes to provide relief to drivers. The Legislature also directed the Washington State Department of Transportation to: make certain physical and operational improvements to the toll lanes to enhance the public’s use of the facility; identify and prioritize future projects to help reduce congestion and add capacity in the corridor; report quarterly on the toll lane project performance measures; and develop and release a request for proposal for a new tolling customer service toll collection system by December 1, 2016. Committee staff will attend any related meetings, monitor the progress of these activities, and draft related legislation if requested.

PROJECT: Design Build Contracting Review Study

COMPLETION DATE:

STAFF: Kim Johnson
786-7472

REFERENCES: [2ESSB 5997-SEC. 3 \(2015\)](#), [2ESSB 5988-SEC. 201 \(2015\)](#)
<http://leg.wa.gov/JTC/Pages/CurrentStudies.aspx>

DESCRIPTION: The Legislature directed the Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) to conduct a design-build contracting review study to examine WSDOT’s implementation and use of design-build contracting. The JTC has convened an expert panel comprised of certain stakeholders to assist in the study. The panel has developed three white papers covering: a review of the differences between design-build and design-bid-build; best practices in design-build project delivery; and, an evaluation of WSDOT’s current use of design-build. The panel will continue to work over the 2016 interim on identifying recommended improvements to the WSDOT design-build program and how to best implement those recommendations. The panel must issue a final report to the Legislature and the Governor by December 1, 2016. Staff will monitor the study’s progress and will draft any legislation as requested.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2016 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7300

November 14-15	Full Committee	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
Legislative Assembly	Work Session		

Senate Ways & Means Committee

Work Plan Summary – 2016 Interim

PROJECT: 2017 Citizen's Guide to the State Budget

COMPLETION DATE: January 2017

STAFF: Jasmin Adams
786-7716

REFERENCES: <http://www.leg.wa.gov/Senate/Committees/WM/>

DESCRIPTION: The Senate Ways & Means Committee and Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program Committee will publish an updated version of the Citizen's Guide to the Budget for the 2017 legislative session. The guide is published on an annual basis for use by members, legislative staff, and the general public to answer basic questions about the Washington State biennial budget. The guide will be published at the start of the 2017 legislative session and will be available with the committee, as well as online.

PROJECT: 2017 Citizen's Guide to K-12 Finance

COMPLETION DATE: January 2017

STAFF: Bryon Moore
786-7726

REFERENCES: <http://www.leg.wa.gov/Senate/Committees/WM/>

DESCRIPTION: The Ways & Means and Early Learning & K-12 Education Committee will update the Citizen's Guide to K-12 Finance. This document serves as a resource for members, legislative staff, and the general public. The document focuses on frequently asked questions regarding K-12 finance.

PROJECT: Local Government Distributions

COMPLETION DATE: October 31, 2016

STAFF: Julie Murray
786-7711

REFERENCES: <http://fiscal.wa.gov/TaxDistributions.aspx>

DESCRIPTION: In the 2014 interim, staff developed a reference guide to the over \$750 million dollars in state distributions to local governments, primarily cities and counties. This information is available at the fiscal.wa.gov website. The reference guide is intended for use by members, legislative staff, local governments, and the public of state shared revenues, distributions, grants and loan programs that benefit local governments. Staff will continue working with the Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program (LEAP) to develop even more complete information on the variety of difference form of assistance to local governments, better search capabilities, and mapping tools.

PROJECT: 2017 Legislative Guide to Washington State Property Taxes

COMPLETION DATE: January 2017

STAFF: Dean Carlson/Juliana Roe
786-7305/786-7438

REFERENCES: <http://www.leg.wa.gov/Senate/Committees/WM/>

DESCRIPTION: Committee staff will update the Legislative Guide to Washington State Property Taxes to reflect recent changes. The guide serves as a resource for members, legislative staff, and the general public. It is anticipated that the guide will be published the second week of session and will be available with the committee, as well as online.

PROJECT: 2017 Legislative Guide to Washington State Taxes

COMPLETION DATE: January 2017

STAFF: Dean Carlson/Juliana Roe
786-7305/786-7438

REFERENCES: <http://www.leg.wa.gov/Senate/Committees/WM/>

DESCRIPTION: Committee staff will create a Legislative Guide to Washington State Taxes. The guide will serve as an overview of Washington's full tax structure for members, legislative staff, and the general public. The guide will be published at the start of the 2017 legislative session and will be available with the committee, as well as online.

PROJECT: 2016 Legislative Budget Notes

COMPLETION DATE: Fall 2016

STAFF: Ways and Means Committee Staff
786-7715

REFERENCES: http://leap.leg.wa.gov/leap/budget/index_lbns.asp

DESCRIPTION: Legislative fiscal staff in the Senate and House will work together with the Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program Committee staff to publish the Legislative Budget Notes (LBN) in the summer of 2016. The LBN is a publication that represents the official record of legislative action on the omnibus operating, transportation, and capital budgets. It is used by legislators, legislative staff, state agencies, and the general public to determine the legislative intent behind the hundreds of policy changes embedded in the three major documents.

PROJECT: Caseload Forecast Council Technical (Staff) Workgroups

COMPLETION DATE: On-going

STAFF: Ways and Means Committee Staff
786-7715

REFERENCES: NA

DESCRIPTION: Staff will monitor changes and trends and provide input regarding caseload forecasts for entitlement programs for the public schools, medical assistance, long-term care, developmental disabilities, foster care, adoption support, general assistance, corrections and juvenile rehabilitation. The caseload forecasts are used to develop the majority of the budgets for these programs. The workgroups meet periodically and include staff from the Senate Ways & Means Committee, House Appropriations Committee, Caseload Forecast Council, Office of Financial Management, and the Department of Social and Health Services and other caseload-driven agencies.

PROJECT: Joint Select Committee on Article IX Litigation

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Susan Mielke/Steve Jones
786-7422/786-7440

REFERENCES: [ESHB 2261 \(2009\)](#), [SHB 2776 \(2010\)](#), [HCR 4410 \(2012\)](#)
<http://leg.wa.gov/jointcommittees/AIXLJSC/Pages/default.aspx>

DESCRIPTION: The Washington State Supreme Court issued its decision in *McCleary v. State*, on January 5, 2012. The Court found that the State failed to meet its paramount constitutional duty to fully fund a program of basic education. The Court retained jurisdiction to monitor the Legislature's compliance with its constitutional duty. The Legislature created the Joint Select Committee on Article IX Litigation (Committee) to facilitate communication with the Washington Supreme Court on school funding. The Committee consists of eight legislators. In July 2012 the Court directed the Joint Select Committee to report annually following enactment of each operating budget, summarizing the legislative actions taken to implement educational funding reforms and achieve compliance with Article IX of the state Constitution. To date, the Legislature has filed four reports with the Supreme Court. (September 17, 2012; August 29, 2013; April 29, 2014; and July 27, 2015).

Committee staff will provide support to the Joint Select Committee and assist with the report as directed by members of the Joint Select Committee.

PROJECT: 4 Year Balanced Budget & Outlook

COMPLETION DATE: On-going

STAFF: Michael Bezanson/Dean Carlson
786-7449/786-7305

REFERENCES: [CHAPTER 43.88 RCW](#)

DESCRIPTION: Beginning with the 2013-2015 biennium, Ch. 8, laws of 2012 (SSB 6636) requires that budgets at time of passage be projected to be balanced for current and following biennia based on a maintenance level projection. Each November, the Economic and Revenue Forecast Council (ERFC) must submit a budget outlook document for state revenues and expenditures for the General Fund and related funds for the current biennium and the next ensuing biennium. The ERFC must also prepare a budget outlook document for the Governor's proposed budget and for the budget enacted by the Legislature. To assist the council in the preparation of the state budget outlooks, a State Budget Outlook Workgroup is created, consisting of one staff person from the Office of Financial Management, the Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program Committee, the Office of the State Treasurer, the Economic and Revenue Forecast Council, the Caseload Forecast Council, the Senate Ways and Means Committee, and the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee. Staff will participate in the workgroup and provide other kinds of technical assistance.

PROJECT: Joint Higher Education Committee

COMPLETION DATE: December 2016

STAFF: Michele Alishahi
786-7433

REFERENCES: [E2SHB 2483 \(2012\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: In 2012 the Legislature established the Joint Higher Education Committee (Committee) to review the work of the Student Achievement Council (Council) and provide legislative feedback; engage with the Council and the higher education community to create greater communication, coordination, and alignment between the higher education system and expectations of the Legislature; and provide recommendations for higher education policy, including proposed legislation, to the higher education and fiscal committees of the Legislature. The Committee consists of four senators (two from each caucus) and four representatives (two from each caucus).

The Committee must meet twice annually and is staffed by Senate Committee Services (SCS) and the House of Representatives Office of Program Research. SCS staff will provide research and support to the senators and draft legislation as requested.

PROJECT: Legislative Advisory Committee to the Guaranteed Education Tuition (GET) Committee

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Michele Alishahi
786-7433

REFERENCES: [3ESHB 2127 \(2012\)](#), [RCW 28B.95.170](#)

DESCRIPTION: The Legislative Advisory Committee is required by law to meet at least once annually to provide advice to the GET committee and the State Actuary regarding administration of the GET Program including, but not limited to, pricing guidelines; the tuition unit price; and the unit payout value. The Legislative Advisory Committee has not scheduled a meeting at this time but will likely convene based on enacted tuition policy changes.

PROJECT: Education Funding Task Force

COMPLETION DATE: Ongoing

STAFF: Alia Kennedy/Susan Mielke/Bryon Moore
786-7405/786-7422/786-7726

REFERENCES: [E2SSB 6195 \(2016\)](#)

DESCRIPTION: The Legislature created the Education Funding Task Force (Task Force) for the stated purpose of continuing the work of the Governor's informal work group to make recommendations to the Legislature on implementing the program of basic education as defined by statute. The Task Force consists of eight legislators. The Task Force recommendations must be submitted to the Legislature by January 9, 2017.

Committee staff will provide meeting support to the Task Force, provide updates to other Committee members on the progress of the Task Force, draft the recommendations at the direction of the Committee and any implementing legislation as requested.

Committee Meeting Schedule – 2016 Interim

For more information please contact the committee at (360) 786-7715

November 14-15	Full Committee	Olympia, WA	Agenda items to be announced.
Legislative Assembly	Work Session		

Additional Electronic Resources

Senate Website: <http://www.leg.wa.gov/Senate>

Senate Committee Services Website:
<http://www.leg.wa.gov/SENATE/COMMITTEES/Pages/default.aspx>

TVW Archives: <http://www.tw.org/archives>